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EVENING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 27TH APRIL, 1950.

MORNING PAPERS : FRIDAY, 28TH APRIL, 1950.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS - AUSTRALIA, FEBRUARY, 1950.

Monthly records of employment referred to in this notice relate to all wage and salary earners, except those in rural industry and female private domestic service, that is, they cover about 90 per cent. of all wage and salary earners in employment.

EMPLOYMENT DURING FEBRUARY.

At the end of February, the number of persons employed (2,514,600) was greater by 19,000 (0.8 per cent) than in January, 1950. The number of males in employment rose by 12,700 to 1,834,600 and the number of females by 6,300 to 680,000.

Comparisons of numbers in employment in the months of February, 1949, January and February, 1950 are as follows :-

NUMBER IN EMPLOYMENT - AUSTRALIA

(Excluding Rural Industry and Female Private Domestic Service)
('000)

| Particulars | February 1949 | January 1950 | February 1950 |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Males | 1,764 | 1,822 | 1,835 |
| Females | 659 | 674 | 680 |
| Persons | 2,423 | 2,496 | 2,515 |

CHANGES IN INDUSTRIAL GROUPS

The largest increases during February in number of males employed occurred in factories, where the rise was 4,900 during the month to a total of 647,600; in building and construction where the rise was 3,500 to a total of 193,100; and in transport and communication where the rise was 2,200 to a total of 287,400. Practically all other groups increased slightly.

The largest increases in number of females employed occurred in factories where the rise was 4,200 to a total of 221,700, and in professional and personal services where a rise of 1,400 to a total of 208,500 was mainly in education. All other groups remained the same or increased slightly.

FACTORY EMPLOYMENT

The number of persons employed in factories rose during February by 9,100 (or 1.1 per cent) to a total of 869,300.

The main increase in males employed occurred in the metals, machines, vehicles, etc., class where the rise was 3,200. Most other classes showed slight increases to make up the total male increase of 4,900.

The main increases in females employed occurred in textiles (incl. knitted goods) - a rise of 600; in clothing - a rise of 1,500; and in food, drink and tobacco - a rise of 1,100. As with male factory employment, most other classes showed slight increases.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT.

The number of persons employed by Commonwealth, State and Local and Semi-government authorities on services such as railways, tramways, the post office, education, police, public works, etc., and as administrative employees rose during February by 4,700 and reached 650,100 (an increase of 0.7 per cent).

Employees of Commonwealth authorities increased by 800; of State and Semi-Government authorities by 3,100; and of Local authorities by 800.

The main increases in numbers of males employed by such authorities occurred in building and construction and in education, whilst practically all the increase in females employed occurred in education.